Healthcare and Public Health Sector Critical Infrastructure Highlight- Edition IV

Looking to the Future of the Health Sector into 2028

As recognition of National Infrastructure Security Month continues, the ASPR Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) is also continuing to provide a weekly "Critical Infrastructure Highlight" throughout November. This week’s Highlight focuses on opportunities and challenges being faced by the healthcare and public health (HPH) sector and health community in the next eight years, and considerations that should be incorporated into upcoming planning and priorities. Below you can find a summary and recording of Monday’s session of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector 2020 Fall Virtual Engagement Series – Looking to the Future of the Health Sector into 2028 and additional resources.

2020 Fall Virtual Engagement Series: Looking to the Future of the Health Sector into 2028

In this week’s session, we heard perspectives from industry and public health representatives on what challenges the sector faces within the next eight (8) years. The Joint Commission presented best practices for the COVID-19 pandemic, including meeting demands for virtual health and supporting public-private partnerships. Verizon followed up by encouraging continued innovation in health technology, specifically 5G and its capabilities. Participants also heard from Outset Medical and the innovations being made in dialysis delivery, including a new adaptive device called Tablo. The Healthcare Distribution Alliance’s Pharmaceutical Cargo Security Coalition emphasized the need to expand upon supply chain through appropriate mapping of supply chain lanes, continued education, and strengthening of supply chain security audits and assessments. Finally, Trust for America’s Health discussed the need to build equity into preparedness and addressing social determinants of health into the promotion of resilience. As we look into the future of the health sector, it is encouraging that these themes are resounding in the public and private sector; providing an opportunity to leverage, build, and enhance the capabilities throughout the health sector and providing long-lasting downstream effects, particularly in clinical care and medical interventions.

Additional Resources
Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccine Access, Safety, and Utilization: Building Vaccination Confidence in Communities of Color is a recorded webinar from Trust for America’s Health, and comes at a critical juncture as COVID-19 vaccine development continues. As has been the case with previous public health emergencies, the COVID-19 pandemic is exposing racial inequities that have long existed in the United States. Racial and ethnic disparities continue in vaccine access due to contributing factors such as lack of access to health coverage and care and issues of distrust.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s 5G Security and Resilience webpage offers insight on the National Strategy to Secure 5G and voluntary tools that are available for secure adoption and implementation of 5G technologies.

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This email has been prepared by the HHS ASPR Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) for its Healthcare and Public Health Sector and Government Coordinating Council Partners

If you have any questions, please email us at CIP@hhs.gov

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